



DRG GROUPER (ICD) TECHNICAL MANUAL

Version 18.0
October 2000

Department Of Veterans Affairs
VISTA Technical Services

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Introduction

The DRG Grouper is a "black box" utility with standalone functionality and can be called by other **VISTA** applications. The DRG Grouper package contains two options:

- DRG Grouper - Used to compute and display the Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) for a patient based on that patient's diagnoses and any operations/procedures performed.
- ICD Code Inquiry - Allows the user to display information for a selected diagnosis or operation/procedure code.

This version of the DRG Grouper is based on the current Medicare Grouper requirements as defined by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) contained in the annual update from 3M Health Information Systems. The same DRG Grouper is used by the Austin Automation Center (AAC).

DRG Components

The DRGs are defined as a manageable, clinically coherent set of patient classes that relate a hospital case mix to the resource demands and associated costs experienced by the hospital. There are DRGs associated with the DRG Grouper. Each represents a class of patients deemed medically comparable and requiring similar amounts of resources for care.

The DRGs may be calculated for both registered VA patients and non-VA patients. Except for Transfer DRGs, the system does not store the DRG compiled for each patient. DRGs are recalculated each time the DRG Grouper option is utilized.

If data entered is insufficient for the DRG Grouper to function, the DRG will not be computed and will be displayed as "UNGROUPABLE". A message such as "Grouper needs to know if patient died during this episode!" will appear informing the user what missing data is required.

Classifying DRGs

The actual process of classifying the patients into one of the DRGs is done by the DRG Grouper using the following information:

- Age
- Sex
- Diagnosis codes
- Operation/procedure codes
- Discharge status

The patient's age and any secondary diagnoses the patient had are used to determine whether the patient's stay had significant and contributing complications and/or comorbidities. The DRG Grouper accepts one primary diagnosis and unlimited secondary diagnoses and operations/procedures.

Related Manuals

- DRG Grouper User Manual
- DRG Grouper Installation Guide
- DRG Grouper Release Notes
- PTF Section of the PIMS (formerly MAS) User Manual contains detailed information on DRGs and DRG calculation, especially in the following options:
 - DRG Information Report
 - DRG Calculation
 - DRG Reports Menu

Security

Security Keys

There are no security keys in the DRG Grouper package.

Security Management

The DRG Grouper V. 18.0 software does not impose any additional legal requirements on the user, nor does it relieve the user of any legal requirements.

VA FileMan Access Codes

File security levels have been upgraded so that only read access is allowed by non-IRM users. It is strongly recommended that you accept this upgraded level of security for the files in the DRG Grouper package to minimize any data corruption problems.

The following table contains the recommended VA FileMan access codes associated with each file in the DRG Grouper software. This list may be used to assist in assigning appropriate VA FileMan access codes to users.

File #	File Name	DD Access	RD Access	WR Access	DEL Access	LAYGO Access
80	ICD DIAGNOSIS	@	d	@	@	@
80.1	ICD OPERATION/ PROCEDURE	@	d	@	@	@
80.2	DRG	@	d	@	@	@
80.3	MAJOR DIAGNOSTIC CATEGORY	@	d	@	@	@

Mail Groups and Alerts

The DRG Grouper software does not use mail groups.

Remote Systems

There are no remote systems used with the DRG Grouper software.

Contingency Planning

Using services should have a local contingency plan to be used in the event of application problems in a live environment. The plan should identify the procedure(s) for maintaining the functionality provided by the DRG Grouper V. 18.0 software in the event of system outage. Field station Information Security Officers (ISOs) can get assistance from the Regional ISO (RISO).

Interfacing

There is no special interfacing required for the DRG Grouper software.

Electronic Signatures

DRG Grouper software does not use electronic signatures.

Implementation and Maintenance

There are no site-configurable features connected with the DRG Grouper package.

Integrity Checker

DRG Grouper V. 18.0 will use the KIDS integrity checker for the following list of routines:

Routine	Checksum
ICD18PR	1435849
ICD18PT	6522320
ICDCOD	2304573
ICDDRG	9695707
ICDDRG0	11866927
ICDDRG12	688964
ICDDRG13	842033
ICDDRG14	678754
ICDDRG2	1319038
ICDDRG3	1197634
ICDDRG5	5934541
ICDDRG6	728191
ICDDRG7	754538
ICDDRG8	1528702
ICDDRG9	867720
ICDDRGM	13582256
ICDDRGX	6529552
ICDHLPD	1344604
ICDHLPO	1187122
ICDTLB1	6526014
ICDTLB2	9335471
ICDTLB3	7318440
ICDTLB4	7164940
ICDTLB5	9783009
ICDTLB6	9026845
ICDTLB61	759568

Routines

Callable Routines

The following are the DRG Grouper externally callable entry points. Each application calling the DRG Grouper is responsible for setting all required variables and deleting them at the end of the call.

^ICDDRGM - Initiates DRG Grouper standalone system. Displays DRG results.

^ICDDRG – API entry point. Calculates DRG. This call will return ICDDRG, a pointer to the DRG file (#80.2). The following variables are required when calling this entry point:

ICDDX(): - REQUIRED - Array of pointers to ICD DIAGNOSIS file (#80) where ICDDX(1) is the primary DXLS. ICDDX(1) must be defined or DRG Grouper will stop processing.

ICDPRC(): - OPTIONAL - Array of pointers to ICD OPERATION/PROCEDURE file (#80.1).

ICDTRS: - REQUIRED - Numeric code (0/1) to indicate if a patient was transferred to an acute care facility.

ICDEXP: - REQUIRED - Numeric code (0/1) to indicate if a patient died during this episode.

ICDDMS: - REQUIRED - Numeric code (0/1) to indicate if a patient was discharged against medical advice.

AGE: - REQUIRED - Numeric code (whole number 0-124) to indicate patient age. Neonatal, newborn, or term can be indicated with 0.

SEX: - REQUIRED - Alphabetic code (M, F, or NULL) to indicate patient sex. Some DRGs apply to either sex so NULL is appropriate. Some DRGs apply to one sex only and DRG Grouper will return an error (Invalid Sex) if NULL or wrong sex is indicated.

^ICDCOD - ICD Code Inquiry. - Allows the user to enter an ICD diagnosis or operation/procedure code. It returns the code description and whether or not that code is inactive.

Routine List

Take the following steps to obtain routines contained in the DRG Grouper package:

1. Programmer Options Menu
2. Routine Tools Menu
3. First Line Routine Print Option
4. Routine Selector: **ICD***

Routines to Map

For those sites where routine mapping is applicable, the following are the routines recommended for mapping: ICDDRG* and ICDTLB*.

Files

Globals and Files

The main globals used in the DRG Grouper package are ^ICD9(, ^ICD0(, ^ICD(, and ^ICM(. These correspond to the ICD DIAGNOSIS, ICD OPERATION/ PROCEDURE, DRG, and MAJOR DIAGNOSTIC CATEGORY files. There are no globals to journal.

File List with Descriptions

File #	File Name	Global	Description
80	ICD DIAGNOSIS	^ICD9(Contains all valid ICD diagnosis codes and the COMPLICATION/ COMORBIDITY EXCLUSION subfile.
80.1	ICD OPERATION/PROCEDURE	^ICD0(Contains all valid ICD operation/ procedure codes.
80.2	DRG	^ICD(Contains all DRGs, their trim points, affiliated and non-affiliated weights, etc.
80.3	MAJOR DIAGNOSTIC CATEGORY	^ICM(Contains major diagnostic categories as used in PTF coding.

Templates

There are no templates contained in the DRG Grouper package.

File Flow (Relationships Between Files)

1. VA FileMan Menu
2. Data Dictionary Utilities Menu
3. Map Pointer Relations
4. Select PACKAGE NAME: **ICD**
5. Remove FILE: <RET>
6. Add FILE: (**Enter name or number for files you want to include in the output.**) This prompt will repeat.
7. Enter name of file group for optional graph header: DRG GROUPER//<RET>

Exported Options

No options are exported with the release of DRG Grouper V. 18.0. The options exported with V. 14.0 will continue to be used.

Archiving and Purging

There are no archiving and purging capabilities connected with the DRG Grouper package as the data is a national table.

External/Internal Relations

The following minimum software versions are required to run DRG Grouper V. 18.0:

VA FileMan V. 21.0

Kernel V. 8.0

PIMS V. 5.3

Database Integration Agreements (DBIAs)

Take the following steps to obtain the DBIAs for DRG Grouper V. 18.0:

Custodial Package	Subscriber Package
1. FORUM	1. FORUM
2. DBA Menu	2. DBA Menu
3. Integration Agreements Menu	3. Integration Agreements Menu
4. Custodial Package Menu	4. Subscriber Package Menu
5. Active by Custodial Package Option	5. Print Active by Subscriber Package Option
6. Select Package Name: ICD	6. Start with subscriber package: ICD

Package-wide Variables

There are no package-wide variables associated with the DRG Grouper package.

SACC Exemptions/Non-Standard Code

There are no SACC exemptions/non-standard code in the DRG Grouper package.

How to Generate Online Documentation

This section describes some of the various methods by which you can secure DRG Grouper technical documentation. You can generate online technical documentation pertaining to the DRG Grouper software (in addition to that which is located in the help prompts and on the help screens which are found throughout the DRG Grouper package) through the utilization of several KERNEL options. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- *XINDEX*
- *Menu Management Inquire Option File*
- *Print Option File*
- *FileMan List File Attributes*

An option name preceded by a question mark (?OPTION) shows extended help, if available, for that option. Entering question marks at the "Select ... Option:" prompt provides valuable technical information. The level of information provided depends on the number of question marks you enter.

- A single question mark (?) lists all options which can be accessed from the current option.
- Two question marks (??) lists all options accessible from the current one, showing the formal name and lock for each.
- Three question marks (???) displays a brief description for each option in a menu.

For a more detailed option listing and further information about other utilities which supply online technical information, please consult the **VISTA** Kernel Reference Manual.

XINDEX

This option analyzes the structure of routines to determine in part if the routines adhere to **VISTA** Programming Standards. The XINDEX output might include the following components:

- Compiled list of errors and warnings
- Routine listing
- Local variables
- Global variables
- Naked globals
- Label references
- External references

By running XINDEX for a specified set of routines, you are afforded the opportunity to discover any deviations from **VISTA** Programming Standards which exist in the selected routines and to see how routines interact with one another (i.e., which routines call or are called by other routines).

To run XINDEX for the DRG Grouper software, specify the following namespace at the "routine(s) ?>" prompt: **ICD***.

DRG Grouper initialization routines which reside in the UCI in which XINDEX is being run, compiled template routines, and local routines found within the ICD namespace should be omitted at the "routine(s) ?>" prompt. To omit routines from selection, preface the namespace with a minus sign (-).

Inquire To Option File

To secure information about DRG Grouper options, you must specify the name or namespace of the option(s) desired. This Menu Manager option provides the following information about user-specified option(s):

- Option name
- Menu text
- Option description
- Type of option
- Lock (if any)

Print Options File

Use this utility to generate a listing of options from the OPTION file (#19). You can choose to print all of the entries in this file, or specify a single option or range of options. To obtain a list of DRG Grouper options, specify the ICD option namespace.

List File Attributes

Use this FileMan option to generate documentation pertaining to files and file structure. Use the Standard format to obtain the following data dictionary information for a specified file(s):

- File name and description
- Identifiers
- Cross-references
- Files pointed to by the file specified
- Files which point to the file specified
- Input, print, and sort templates

Additionally, the following information is supplied for each field in the file:

- Field name and number
- Global location
- Description
- Help prompt
- Cross-reference(s)
- Input transform
- Date last edited
- Notes

Use the Global Map format of this option to generate an output which lists:

- All cross-references for the selected file
- Global location of each field in the file
- Input, print, and sort templates

Glossary

Complication/comorbidity	A condition whose presence in conjunction with a specific primary diagnosis would cause an increase in length of stay by at least one day in 75% of the patients.
DRG	Diagnosis Related Group. A manageable, clinically coherent set of patient classes that relate a hospital case mix to the resource demands and associated costs experienced by the hospital
Primary Diagnosis	Diagnosis that is chiefly responsible for causing the patient's admission to the hospital.
PTF	Patient Treatment File
Registered VA Patient	Patient contained in the PATIENT file (#2).
Ungroupable	Where sufficient data has not been entered for the DRG Grouper to function, the DRG will not be computed and will be displayed as UNGROUPABLE.